

May 18, 1983

LB 17

the germaneness issue as to whether or not the amendment is or is not germane, then there is absolutely no reason for a germaneness rule at all because then it simply takes 25 votes in any case to attach any amendment you want and that is a very irrational point of view and I would hope that the Legislature would not adopt that philosophy, well, we like the amendment so it is germane. I think we honestly ought to assess whether the amendment is or is not germane and an honest assessment of that fact I think leads to only one conclusion and that is that the amendment clearly is not germane. Finally, I would point out that Senator DeCamp before lunch raised the issue as to whether or not the germaneness issue should have been raised immediately. A reporter came back and asked me why I raised the germaneness issue at that point in time and quite honestly the answer is that I hadn't think of it until then and the reason that it came to my mind is because Governor Kerrey told me and the rest of you that this amendment should be attached to an appropriate bill. Now when I heard Senator DeCamp read the Governor suggested we add \$7 to an appropriate bill, I thought, well, LB 17 probably isn't a very appropriate bill. So indirectly I guess the germaneness issue was one suggested by the Governor by telling us that we ought to adopt this to an appropriate measure. So I am up here helping the Governor make sure that these amendments are adopted to an appropriate bill. This clearly is not an appropriate bill and I would urge you to stick with the Speaker, vote against John DeCamp's motion to overrule the Chair.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins is next but may I introduce a guest of Senator Howard Lamb. Under the North balcony is Don Ellingson of Broken Bow, Nebraska who is the Register of Deeds at Custer County. Would you please stand and be recognized. Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, are we speaking to the germaneness of this or are we speaking to the amendment?

SPEAKER NICHOL: You are speaking to overruling the Chair.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Then we are speaking to whether or not the amendment is germane and whether or not the Chair should be overruled on that basis, am I correct?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: I just want to know since my light has been on since eleven o'clock if I am going to get a shot at speaking at that amendment if the Chair is overruled.